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CANTOR COLBURN, LLP			DICKERSON, CHAD S	
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/602,140	Applicant(s) TANAKA ET AL.	
	Examiner Chad Dickerson	Art Unit 2625	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 13 November 2007.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 12-50 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 12-40 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 41-50 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 23 June 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>see attachment</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. Applicant's arguments, see page 18, filed 11/8/2007, with respect to the drawing objections have been fully considered and are persuasive. The objections of the drawings have been withdrawn.
2. Applicant's arguments, see page 18, filed 11/18/2007, with respect to the specification objections have been fully considered and are persuasive. The objections of the specification have been withdrawn.
3. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-11 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 41-50 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Iida '663 (6956663) in view of Motohashi '628 (7180628).

Re claim 41: Iida '663 an image forming apparatus capable of communicating with another apparatus which comprises an HTTP server program (i.e. in the system of Iida '663 the image forming apparatus contains a server program in ROM; see fig. 3; col. 3, line 45 – col. 8, lines 49), comprising:

a first storage for storing an HTTP server program and an HTTP client program (i.e. the ROM in the network facsimile apparatus stores a server program and a program that functions as a client program that transmits information to the other apparatuses in the system; see fig. 3; col. 3, line 45 – col. 8, lines 49);

a second storage for storing a parameter data used in the image forming apparatus (i.e. in the system, the external memory in the network facsimile apparatus stores information such as device setting information, status information and other information that is used in the network facsimile apparatus; see fig. 3; col. 3, line 45 – col. 8, lines 49);

an operation section for an input performed by an operator (i.e. shown in figure 3 is a panel section used for inputs into the network facsimile apparatus; see fig. 3; col. 3, line 45 – col. 8, lines 49); and

a controller for responding to the input from the operation section (i.e. the CPU (1) is used to respond to the inputs on the panel in the network facsimile apparatus; see fig. 3; col. 3, line 45 – col. 8, lines 49), and for writing the parameter data to the second storage (i.e. in the system, when the network facsimile apparatus receives data from the client apparatus, the information is stored in the external memory; see fig. 3; col. 3, line 45 – col. 8, lines 49).

However, lida '663 fails to teach for requesting the another image forming apparatus to transfer the parameter data by the HTTP client program, for receiving the parameter data transferred from the another image forming apparatus by the HTTP server program of the another image forming apparatus.

However, this is well known in the art as evidenced by Motohashi '628.

Motohashi '628 discloses for requesting the another image forming apparatus to transfer the parameter data by the HTTP client program (i.e. in the system, the TCP/IP protocol is used to communicate between image forming apparatuses. Since an image forming apparatus uses this protocol through the serial transmission and reception block, it is similar to using a client and server program since the apparatus sends and receives information. The apparatus can request information from another apparatus that includes the operation status of the printer receiving the query; see col. 29, line 6 – col. 33, line 47), for receiving the parameter data transferred from the another image forming apparatus by the HTTP server program of the another image forming apparatus (i.e. in the system, the printer that originally communicates with the second printer or copier is sent a message describing the state of the second printer. The second printer had an initial state of being able to be used for printing and then the state changes. Once the state changes this information is relayed to the first printer; see col. 29, line 6 – col. 33, line 47).

Therefore, in view of Motohashi '628, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time the invention was made to have the feature for requesting the another image forming apparatus to transfer the parameter data by the HTTP client program, for receiving the parameter data transferred from the another image forming apparatus by the HTTP server program of the another image forming apparatus in order to check the operating state of another machine and sending this state to an original

copier while trying to use the second machine for a copy operation (as stated in Motohashi '628 col. 1, lines 57-65).

Re claim 42: The teachings of Iida '663 in view of Motohashi '628 are disclosed above. Iida '663 discloses the image forming apparatus of claim 41, wherein the parameter data transferred from the another apparatus includes a password of a manager or an initial set value used when the image forming apparatus is started (i.e. in the system, the client apparatus sends setting data to the image forming apparatus. The image forming apparatus uses this data to change a flag value in order to indicate what will occur to the document data; see col. 11, line 19 – col. 14, line 50).

However, Iida '663 fails to teach transferred from the another image forming apparatus.

However, this is well known in the art as evidenced by Motohashi '628. Motohashi '628 discloses transferred from the another image forming apparatus (i.e. Motohashi '628 discloses a system where any image forming apparatus in the system can send information to a first requesting apparatus when that first requesting apparatus is connected to the second apparatus while an event affecting the copy operation occurs; see col. 29, line 6 – col. 33, line 47).

Therefore, in view of Motohashi '628, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time the invention was made to have the feature of transferred from the another image forming apparatus in order to check the operating state of another

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machine and sending this state to an original copier while trying to use the second machine for a copy operation (as stated in Motohashi '628 col. 1, lines 57-65).

Re claim 43: The teachings of lida '663 in view of Motohashi '628 are disclosed above.

lida '663 discloses the image forming apparatus of claim 41, further comprising in which the parameter data is transferred from the another apparatus to the image forming apparatus (i.e. in the system, the client apparatus sends setting data to the image forming apparatus. The image forming apparatus uses this data to change a flag value In order to indicate what will occur to the document data; see col. 11, line 19 – col. 14, line 50).

However, lida '663 fails to teach a display for displaying an operation and transferred from the another image forming apparatus to the image forming apparatus.

However, this is well known in the art as evidenced by Motohashi '628. Motohashi '628 discloses a display for displaying an operation and transferred from the another image forming apparatus to the image forming apparatus (i.e. in Motohashi '628, the operation panel is used to show data transferred to the master machine from the other slave machines that are in regards to the slave machine's operation state. The operation panel is on the master machine, but could very well be on the slave machine if the machines role as master and slave is reversed; see col. 14, lines 6-52).

Therefore, in view of Motohashi '628, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time the invention was made to have a display for displaying an

operation in order to show messages of a state of a digital copying machine (as stated in Motohashi '628 col. 14, lines 6-52).

Re claim 44: Iida '663 discloses an image forming apparatus capable of communicating with another apparatus which comprises an HTTP server program (i.e. in the system of Iida '663 the image forming apparatus contains a server program in ROM; see fig. 3; col. 3, line 45 – col. 8, lines 49), comprising:

a first storage for storing an HTTP server program and an HTTP client program (i.e. the ROM in the network facsimile apparatus stores a server program and a program that functions as a client program that transmits information to the other apparatuses in the system; see fig. 3; col. 3, line 45 – col. 8, lines 49);

second storage for storing a parameter data used in the image forming apparatus (i.e. in the system, the external memory in the network facsimile apparatus stores information such as device setting information, status information and other information that is used in the network facsimile apparatus; see fig. 3; col. 3, line 45 – col. 8, lines 49);

an operation section for an input performed by an operator (i.e. shown in figure 3 is a panel section used for inputs into the network facsimile apparatus; see fig. 3; col. 3, line 45 – col. 8, lines 49); and

a controller for responding to the input from the operation section (i.e. the CPU (1) is used to respond to the inputs on the panel in the network facsimile apparatus; see

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fig. 3; col. 3, line 45 – col. 8, lines 49), for accessing to the another apparatus by the HTTP client program (i.e. with using the email communication program on the printer, the network facsimile apparatus can communicate, like a client device, to other devices on the network; see fig. 3; col. 3, line 45 – col. 8, lines 49) and for sending a signal which requires the another apparatus to receive a transfer of the parameter data (i.e. in the system, the network facsimile apparatus can send information regarding a document list and other information that is used by the client apparatus in the system; see col. 3, line 45 – col. 8, lines 49).

However, Iida '663 fails to teach for accessing to the another image forming apparatus by the HTTP client program, and for sending a signal which requires the HTTP server program of the another image forming apparatus to receive a transfer of the parameter data.

However, this is well known in the art as evidenced by Motohashi '628. Motohashi '628 discloses for accessing to the another image forming apparatus by the HTTP client program (i.e. in the system, the TCP/IP protocol is used to communicate between image forming apparatuses. Since an image forming apparatus uses this protocol through the serial transmission and reception block, it is similar to using a client and server program since the apparatus sends and receives information. The apparatus can request information from another apparatus that includes the operation status of the printer receiving the query; see col. 29, line 6 – col. 33, line 47), and for sending a signal which requires the HTTP server program of the another image forming apparatus to receive a transfer of the parameter data (i.e. in the system, the master

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machine may send link copy information to the slave machine in the system with other image information. The link copy information is needed to be established initially in the slave machine before the slave machine is utilized for printing; col. 18, line 21 – col. 20, line 21).

Therefore, in view of Motohashi '628, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time the invention was made to have the feature for accessing to the another image forming apparatus by the HTTP client program, and for sending a signal which requires the HTTP server program of the another image forming apparatus to receive a transfer of the parameter data in order to send a link copy mode request to another digital copying machine (as stated in Motohashi '628 col. 18, line 64 – col. 19, line 13).

Re claim 45: The teachings of Iida '663 in view of Motohashi '628 are disclosed above. Iida '663 discloses the image forming apparatus of claim 44, wherein the parameter data transferred from the another apparatus includes a password of a manager or an initial set value used when the image forming apparatus is started (i.e. in the system, the client apparatus sends setting data to the image forming apparatus. The image forming apparatus uses this data to change a flag value in order to indicate what will occur to the document data; see col. 11, line 19 – col. 14, line 50).

However, Iida '663 fails to teach transferred from the another image forming apparatus.

However, this is well known in the art as evidenced by Motohashi '628.

Motohashi '628 discloses transferred from the another image forming apparatus (i.e. Motohashi '628 discloses a system where any image forming apparatus in the system can send information to a first requesting apparatus when that first requesting apparatus is connected to the second apparatus while an event affecting the copy operation occurs; see col. 29, line 6 – col. 33, line 47).

Therefore, in view of Motohashi '628, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time the invention was made to have the feature of transferred from the another image forming apparatus in order to check the operating state of another machine and sending this state to an original copier while trying to use the second machine for a copy operation (as stated in Motohashi '628 col. 1, lines 57-65).

Re claim 46: The teachings of Iida '663 in view of Motohashi '628 are disclosed above. Iida '663 discloses the image forming apparatus of claim 44, further comprising in which the parameter data is transferred from the another apparatus to the image forming apparatus (i.e. in the system, the client apparatus sends setting data to the image forming apparatus. The image forming apparatus uses this data to change a flag value in order to indicate what will occur to the document data; see col. 11, line 19 – col. 14, line 50).

However, Iida '663 fails to teach a display for displaying an operation and transferred from the another image forming apparatus to the image forming apparatus.

However, this is well known in the art as evidenced by Motohashi '628.

Motohashi '628 discloses a display for displaying an operation and transferred from the another image forming apparatus to the image forming apparatus (i.e. in Motohashi '628, the operation panel is used to show data transferred to the master machine from the other slave machines that are in regards to the slave machine's operation state. The operation panel is on the master machine, but could very well be on the slave machine if the machines role as master and slave is reversed; see col. 14, lines 6-52).

Therefore, in view of Motohashi '628, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time the invention was made to have a display for displaying an operation in order to show messages of a state of a digital copying machine (as stated in Motohashi '628 col. 14, lines 6-52).

Re claim 47: The teachings of Iida '663 in view of Motohashi '628 are disclosed above. Iida '663 discloses the image forming apparatus of claim 44, wherein the apparatus is capable of communicating with a plurality of other image forming apparatuses which comprise the HTTP server program (i.e. in the system, the client apparatus can communicate with other facsimiles and printers in the system through the network facsimile apparatus; see col. 9, line 20 - col. 10, line 67); and the operation section includes a image forming apparatus to which the parameter data is to be transferred among the plurality of other image forming apparatuses (i.e. in the system, the panel section is used to enter in destination addresses to send information,

considered as parameter data, to other devices in the system that can receive printers, facsimiles and other devices; see col. 3, lines 61-66).

However, Iida '663 fails to teach a selecting section for selecting one image forming apparatus.

However, this is well known in the art as evidenced by Motohashi '628. Motohashi '628 discloses a selecting section for selecting one image forming apparatus (i.e. in figure 24, the display screen shows a selection function where the master copier can select machines to link copy connect to; see col. 24, lines 20-44).

Therefore, in view of Motohashi '628, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time the invention was made to have the selecting section for selecting one image forming apparatus in order to have a selection key to select copiers used in the system (as stated in Motohashi '628 col. 24, lines 20-44).

Re claim 48: Iida '663 discloses an image forming system in which a first image forming apparatus and a second apparatus are connected so as to be capable of communicating with each other (i.e. in the system of Iida '663 the image forming apparatus contains a server program in ROM that communicates with the client apparatus; see fig. 3; col. 3, line 45 – col. 8, lines 49), wherein the first image forming apparatus (i.e. the network facsimile apparatus; see fig. 3; col. 3, line 45 – col. 8, lines 49) comprises:

a first storage for storing an HTTP server program and an HTTP client program (i.e. the ROM in the network facsimile apparatus stores a server program and a

program that functions as a client program that transmits information to the other apparatuses in the system; see fig. 3; col. 3, line 45 – col. 8, lines 49);

a second storage for storing a parameter data used in the first image forming apparatus (i.e. in the system, the external memory in the network facsimile apparatus stores information such as device setting information, status information and other information that is used in the network facsimile apparatus; see fig. 3; col. 3, line 45 – col. 8, lines 49); and

a first operation section for an input performed by an operator (i.e. shown in figure 3 is a panel section used for inputs into the network facsimile apparatus; see fig. 3; col. 3, line 45 – col. 8, lines 49);

the second apparatus (i.e. the client computer; see fig. 3; col. 3, line 45 – col. 8, lines 49) comprises:

a third storage for storing an HTTP client program (i.e. with the client computer used in the system as a client apparatus, it is understood that the client computer stores a program to allow the computer to communicate as a client to the network facsimile apparatus; see fig. 3; col. 3, line 45 – col. 8, lines 49); and

a second operation section for an input performed by an operator (i.e. on the client device there are inputs that are performed by a client on the system; see fig. 3; col. 3, line 45 – col. 8, lines 49); and

the image forming system starts the HTTP server program stored in the first storage and the HTTP client program stored in the third storage, or starts the HTTP client program stored in the first storage and the HTTP server program stored in the

third storage (i.e. the client computer, which is considered to have a client program stored on the computer communicates with the network facsimile apparatus, which has a stored server in the ROM. The stored server program and the email program is used to communicate with the client computer and other devices in the system; see col. 3, line 45 – col. 8, lines 49), the image forming system transfers the parameter data stored in the second storage from the first image forming apparatus to the second image forming apparatus (i.e. in the system, the network facsimile apparatus transfers information regarding the addresses of devices on the network as well as other information to be displayed to the client apparatus on the system; col. 3, line 45 – col. 8, lines 49).

However, Iida '663 fails to teach the second image forming apparatus comprises: a third storage for storing an HTTP server program and an HTTP client program; a fourth storage for storing a parameter data used in the second image forming apparatus; and writes the parameter data to the fourth storage.

However, this is well known in the art as evidenced by Motohashi '628. Motohashi '628 discloses the second image forming apparatus (i.e. the slave machine can be considered as the second image forming apparatus; see col. 29, line 6 – col. 33, line 47) comprises: a third storage for storing an HTTP server program and an HTTP client program (i.e. in the system, the digital copying apparatuses used have a serial transmission and reception block in the memory unit. This allows for the copier to transmit and receive information using the TCP/IP communications method, which is commonly used for the internet. This unit resides in its own block within the memory;

see figs. 14 and 15; col. 15, line 9 – col. 20, line 21); a fourth storage for storing a parameter data used in the second image forming apparatus (i.e. the DRAM block in the memory unit is used to store received image data that is used to print an image during the link copy mode; see figs. 14 and 15; col. 18, line 20 – col. 20, line 21); and writes the parameter data to the fourth storage (i.e. the link copy mode is used to communicate data to another image forming apparatus and the image data is written to the DRAM block by the image writing unit in the system; see figs. 14 and 15; col. 15, line 9 – col. 20, line 21).

Therefore, in view of Motohashi '628, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time the invention was made to have the feature of having a second image forming apparatus comprises: a third storage for storing an HTTP server program and an HTTP client program; a fourth storage for storing a parameter data used in the second image forming apparatus; and writes the parameter data to the fourth storage in order to perform recording, storage and communication of information between all the apparatuses (as stated in Motohashi '628 col. 1, lines 37-48).

Re claim 49: The teachings of Iida '663 in view of Motohashi '628 are disclosed above. Iida '663 discloses the image forming system of claim 48, wherein the second apparatus comprises a controller for responding to the input from the second operation section (i.e. in the system, the client apparatus is considered as the second apparatus. The client computer clearly comprises a controller that responds to the requests from the operation section of the client computer, which comprises a keyboard or mouse; see

col. 3, line 45 – col. 8, lines 49), for requesting the first image forming apparatus to transfer the parameter data by the HTTP client program stored in the third storage (i.e. in the system, the client computer is understood to store a client program since it has the ability to request information from the image forming apparatus. This information includes document files or address book information and other types of information; col. 3, line 45 – col. 8, lines 49), for receiving the parameter data transferred from the first image forming apparatus by the HTTP server program of the first image forming apparatus (i.e. in the system, the network facsimile apparatus contains a server program in the ROM. The facsimile apparatus can send the address book information or the document file information to the client apparatus for the client apparatus to display; col. 3, line 45 – col. 8, lines 49), and for writing the parameter data to the second storage (i.e. in the system, when the network facsimile apparatus receives data from the client apparatus, the information is stored in the external memory; see fig. 3; col. 3, line 45 – col. 8, lines 49).

Re claim 50: The teachings of Iida '663 in view of Motohashi '628 are disclosed above. Iida '663 the image forming system of claim 48, wherein the first image forming apparatus comprises a first controller for responding to the input from the first operation section (i.e. the CPU (1) of the network facsimile apparatus is used to respond to the inputs into the panel section of the apparatus; see col. 3, line 45 – col. 8, lines 49), for accessing to the second apparatus by the HTTP client program stored in the first storage (i.e. in the system, the destination address can be for any type of apparatus

capable of having an address in the system; see col. 3, line 45 – col. 8, lines 49), and for sending a signal to receive the transfer of the parameter data (i.e. the network facsimile apparatus sends a signal to the client apparatus to through the browser for the user to see the information that the network facsimile apparatus has sent to the client computer; col. 3, line 45 – col. 8, lines 49).

However, lida '663 fails to teach which requires the HTTP server program stored in the third storage and the second image forming apparatus comprises a second controller for transferring the parameter data stored in the second storage by the HTTP server program stored in the third storage, and for writing the parameter data to the fourth storage.

However, this is well known in the art as evidenced by Motohashi '628.

Motohashi '628 discloses which requires the HTTP server program stored in the third storage (i.e. in the system, the slave machine and the master machines have a capability to send and receive information using the internet protocol. With using this protocol, one can send information and one can receive information. This can be considered as a client and server program. The program for this communication is either stored where the other programs are, in RAM and ROM, or in the memory unit as the serial transmission and reception block; see figs. 14 and 15; col. 15, line 9 – col. 20, line 21) and the second image forming apparatus comprises a second controller for transferring the parameter data stored in the second storage by the HTTP server program stored in the third storage (i.e. in the system, any machine can be a master or a slave machine. Therefore, any machine can send information to the other respective

machine. When a digital copier is trying to perform a link copy job, the copier sends data to the other copier through the Internet protocol and the other copier can receive this information. The serial transmission and reception block sends the image data to the other copier; see figs. 14 and 15; col. 15, line 9 – col. 20, line 21), and for writing the parameter data to the fourth storage (i.e. when the other copier receives data from the master machine, the image data is stored in a different block in memory that is called the DRAM block; see figs. 14 and 15; col. 15, line 9 – col. 20, line 21).

Therefore, in view of Motohashi '628, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time the invention was made to have the feature of which requires the HTTP server program stored in the third storage and the second image forming apparatus comprises a second controller for transferring the parameter data stored in the second storage by the HTTP server program stored in the third storage, and for writing the parameter data to the fourth storage in order to perform recording, storage and communication of information between all the apparatuses (as stated in Motohashi '628 col. 1, lines 37-48).

Conclusion

6. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.
7. Suzue '166 (US Pat No 6618166) discloses a system where a copying machine is considered as a being server or a client and data is sent in between the copiers.

8. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Chad Dickerson whose telephone number is (571)-270-1351. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon. thru Thur. 9:00-6:30 Fri. 9:00-5:00.

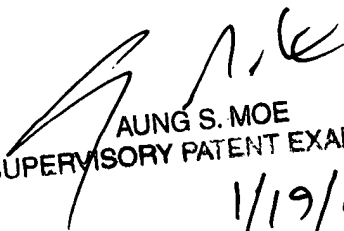
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Aung Moe can be reached on (571)-272-7314. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

CD/ 
Chad Dickerson

January 19, 2008


AUNG S. MOE
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
1/19/08